

IDHS-DEC, ISBE, and DFSS Home Visiting COVID-19 Protocols, June 2022

Illinois Home Visiting has utilized information from the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make important decisions about the best ways to support children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our ongoing goal is to protect all children and adults in the home, particularly those that are more vulnerable to severe COVID-19 illness.



How Home Visiting supports families during the Pandemic

1. A phone call prior to your child's in-person visit. Questions include health status of family members, your doctors' recommendations for you/your child regarding in-person services, and your preference for in-person services versus a virtual visit. We call this a **Family Risk Screening Checklist**.
2. Options for in-person or virtual visit based on the results of the call and the COVID-19 levels in your community (see the [CDC COVID-19 by County map](#)).
3. The home visitor can wear a mask, should maintain social distancing, and use infection control measures.

How families support Home Visiting during the Pandemic

1. Keep providers updated on your family health status by calling with important health changes of family members.
2. Work with your home visitor to agree upon the preferences regarding wearing a mask during the visit and how sessions should occur. The CDC's [COVID-19 by County map](#), can help you decide what is best by giving you information on COVID rates in your area.
3. Understand that last minute schedule changes happen due to the health status of the family and the home visitor and others on their caseloads.

